

P30296.A01



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Shuji SHIKANO et al.

Group Art Unit : Not Yet Assigned

Appl. No. : 10/597,250 (U.S. National
Stage of PCT/JP2005/001326)

Examiner : Not Yet Assigned

I.A. Filed : January 31, 2005

Confirmation No. : 8324

For : IMAGE PICKUP APPARATUS, IMAGE PICKUP LENS, AND DATA
WRITING METHOD TO IMAGE PICKUP LENS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, Applicants hereby bring to the attention of the Examiner the following information.

The following documents were cited in an International Search Report with respect to International Patent Application No. PCT/JP2005/001326, of which the present application is the U.S. National Stage Application. A copy of the International Search Report has been filed concurrently with the present application and should thus have already been brought to the attention of the Examiner.

- (1) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application Publication No. HEI 10-048532 A, together with an English language computer-generated translation of the same; and
- (2) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application Publication No. 2001-174714 A, together with an English language computer-generated translation of the same.

The relevance of the documents cited in the International Search Report, as ascertained with respect to the international claims by the International Examiner, is set forth in the International Search Report.

Applicants further bring to the attention of the Examiner the following documents:

- (3) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application Publication No. HEI 10-210327 A, together with an English language computer-generated translation of the same. Applicants note that this document is cited beginning at page 2 of the specification of the above-captioned application;
- (4) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application Publication No. 2000-155268 A, together with an English language computer-generated translation of the same. Applicants note that this document is cited beginning at page 3 of the specification of the above-captioned application.

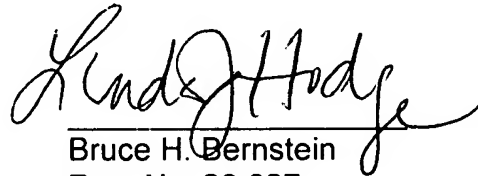
Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted documents, including the noted English language translations, are attached hereto, and are listed on an attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached

Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicants with the next official communication in the present application.

Applicants note that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the present application, and thus, no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Shuji SHIRANO et al.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Linda J. Hodge".

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November 15, 2006
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